



CITY OF JERSEY CITY

STEVEN M. FULOP, MAYOR

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Mayor Fulop & Department of Health & Human Services Announce Additional 1,500 Senior Farmers' Market Vouchers

JERSEY CITY – **Mayor Steven M. Fulop** and the **Department of Health & Human Services** announced today that the City has received an **additional 1,500 senior citizen Farmers' Market vouchers**, which signifies an **additional \$30,000** of economic incentives for our seniors to shop locally, as well as an investment into the Farmers' Markets in our community.

“Providing our senior citizens access to affordable and healthy food options is one of the ways to ensure good nutrition and longevity amongst our senior population,” said **Mayor Fulop**. “We know that many of our seniors are on fixed incomes, so we are pleased to be able to extend this program to those who may otherwise not be able to afford fresh, local produce.”

Since June, the Division of Senior Affairs has distributed 2,500 Farmers' Market Nutrition Program checks to Jersey City senior citizens, which equates to \$50,000 in assistance and an investment of \$50,000 into the NJ Farm Economy. These vouchers are not for use in the supermarket.

The Senior Farmers' Market Nutrition Program (FMNP) was created more than 20 years ago to support the need for supplemental food for seniors. This program is one of many aspects of the federal Farm Bill being reviewed in Congress. As part of the program, eligible senior citizens can apply for a package of four checks worth \$5 each, totaling \$20. These checks are good for locally grown fruits and vegetables at local farmers' markets on local/Jersey Fresh produce.

To be eligible, seniors must be 60 years of age or older and have an annual income no more than \$21,257 for an individual or \$28,694 for a couple.

Applications are available at the Department of Health & Human Services/Division of Senior Affairs, 1 Journal Square, 2nd Floor, or by calling 201-547-4361. All completed applications must be returned to Senior Affairs for review before distribution.

All media inquiries should be directed to Jennifer Morrill, Press Secretary for the City of Jersey City, at 201-547-4836 or 201-376-0699./////

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